

Journal.)

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Chambers, are you handling this or is Senator Hall?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, being the generous, humble fellow that I am, I am going to yield my opening to Senator Hall.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Mr. President and members, this amendment, as offered by Senator Chambers and myself, would replace the "Secretary of State" with the "Auditor of Public Accounts". The issue is this. Clearly it is a measure by which if we are going to set a date certain, allow for the order to be drawn, no one other than the Auditor of Accounts could do a more expeditious job, clearly ensure that the... a timely manner and process is put in place and clearly I don't think that there would be, there would be no charge too extreme under which an individual would be burned. I mean clearly the auditor would conserve as much energy as possible, if we were going to execute someone; in this case, I think we are going to give it to another executive branch officer, the person that should deal with this issue is one who conserves the state resources, and that is what the Auditor of Public Accounts does. I believe that this amendment, probably more than any other epitomizes some of the problems that you see, not only in the committee amendments but in the green copy of the bill. As you know, from day one I have not been supportive of this measure because I believe for the most part that we haven't even gotten to the substantive issues of what this overall measure is going to do as it relates to the cost to the state. We are talking about a measure that we are putting in place that very likely, if you look at only the green copy of the bill, could generate costs, and this is not an extreme number, we are talking about really a ballpark figure, anywhere in the neighborhood of \$200 million if you look at the green copy for the cost of this measure. If you look at the potential for maybe one, more than likely one prison, possibly two, the argument is out there and I believe it was even Senator Kristensen who brought in a bill to the Appropriations Committee that said, under the current situation, under our current provisions in law, under the current excessive number of individuals that are being incarcerated presently that we need another prison in this state. I believe the cost factor alone